

CLAIMS

1. A touch screen-type input device comprising:

a touch screen consisting of a display panel on which multiple button patterns can be variably displayed for multiple input purposes and a touch panel for
5 detecting information for contact position onto the display panel;

a transparent button sheet which is disposed on the touch screen and has a shape to enable a user to recognize a position of each button in each button pattern on the display panel using their sense of touch; and

10 a control means for determining which button in the button pattern displayed on the display panel was pressed down according to the position information from the touch panel.

2. The touch screen-type input device as defined in Claim 1 further comprising:

a click sensation providing means for providing a click sensation for a user when a button on the touch screen is pressed down.

15 3. The touch screen-type input device as defined in Claim 2, wherein the click sensation providing means is a mechanical switch which is disposed under the display panel and provides a click sensation for a user by being pressed down via the display panel when the user presses down the touch screen.

20 4. The touch screen-type input device as defined in Claim 2, wherein the control means is connected to the click sensation providing means and outputs a button signal showing which button was pressed down when the control means receives the position information from the touch panel and a signal indicating that the click sensation providing means was activated.

25 5. The touch screen-type input device as defined in any one of Claim 1, wherein the transparent button sheet has a shape with convexities and concavities, and each of the convexities corresponds to each button displayed on the display panel, while each of the concavities corresponds to the boundary between each button.

6. A touch screen-type input device comprising:

a touch screen consisting of a display panel on which multiple button patterns can be variably displayed for multiple input purposes and a touch panel for detecting information for contact position onto the display panel;

5 a click sensation providing means for provide a click sensation for a user when a button on the touch screen is pressed down; and

10 a control means for determining which button in the button pattern displayed on the display panel was pressed down according to the position information from the touch panel when the control means receives the position information from the touch panel and a signal indicating that the click sensation providing means was activated.

7. A multi-functional remote controller comprising:

a touch screen consisting of a display panel on which multiple button patterns can be variably displayed for operating multiple home electrical appliances and a touch panel for detecting information on contact position onto the display panel;

a transparent button sheet which is disposed on the touch screen and has a shape to enable a user to recognize a position of each button in each button pattern on the display panel using their sense of touch; and

20 a control means for determining which button in the button pattern displayed on the display panel was pressed down according to the position information from the touch panel.

8. A portable telephone comprising:

a touch screen consisting of a display panel on which multiple button patterns can be variably displayed for multiple input purposes and a touch panel for 25 detecting information on contact position onto the display panel;

a transparent button sheet which is disposed on the touch screen and has a shape to enable a user to recognize a position of each button in each button pattern on the display panel using their sense of touch; and

a control means for determining which button in the button pattern displayed on the display panel was pressed down according to the position information from the touch panel.